

NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION



Interpretation Number: 03-02

Date: 10-09; amended 03-14

Pamphlet Number: NFPA 96, 2001 Ed.

Section(s): 1.1.4, 4.1.1, 4.1.9, 10.1.2

Comments:

Applicable to new installations and to existing installations where the Authority Having Jurisdiction determines that a life safety hazard exists. Replaces previous interpretation dated 02-07

Question: Under what conditions is cooking equipment required to provide exhaust and/or fire extinguishing systems?

Response: Any cooking equipment used for commercial cooking that produces smoke or grease-laden vapors shall be equipped with an exhaust system (hood, ducts, ventilation). Any cooking equipment used for commercial cooking that creates grease-laden vapors must be protected by an automatic fire-extinguishing system meeting NFPA 96, and portable fire extinguishers in accordance with NFPA 10.

Residential cooking equipment is not required to provide exhaust or fire-extinguishing systems under the following conditions:

1. The cooking equipment is used for warming or limited cooking only. No frying is conducted; and
2. Portable fire extinguishers shall be placed in the kitchen in accordance with NFPA 10; and
3. The facility is not an assembly occupancy as defined in the Life Safety Code.

This interpretation does not apply to cooking equipment used within individual dwelling units such as homes and apartments, or to residential cooking equipment used in residential occupancies housing 16 or fewer people such as Lodging and Rooming Houses, Small Residential Board and Care occupancies or day-care homes.

Cooking equipment located within an educational classroom (consumer science) is permitted to utilize commercial or residential cooking equipment for cooking that includes frying (no deep fat fryers) when one of the following is met:

1. An exhaust hood providing venting to the exterior and the appropriate fire suppression system meeting the requirements of either UL300 or UL300A is provided; or
2. The classroom shall be fire sprinkler protected and the classroom shall be separated from the rest of the building by one-hour fire rated construction.

Signature:

Date: 03/07/2014

Title:

Jim Heine, State Fire Marshal